

CLAIMS

1. A luminescent display for use in illuminating identification indicia, including a housing for attachment to a support surface; a phosphorescent screen having a useful area in excess of twenty square inches, substantially opaque indicia means mounted on said screen; and electrical energizing means connected to the screen for applying a predetermined voltage to the screen in energizing relation therewith to illuminate the indicia means, whereby the indicia are identifiable for remote viewing when the screen is energized.
2. The luminescent screen as set forth in Claim 1, including light-responsive cut-out means to disconnect said energizing means from said screen when ambient light exceeds a predetermined threshold level.
3. The luminescent screen as set forth in Claim 1, including ultra violet masking means located in protective relation with said screen, to limit the adverse effects of u/v rays impinging on said screen.
4. The luminescent screen as set forth in Claim 1, wherein said electrical energizing means has a predetermined output voltage less than the rated voltage of said screen, to energize said screen to a predetermined level of illumination, whereby the life expectancy of said screen is extended.
5. The luminescent screen as set forth in Claim 1, wherein said phosphorescent screen has a light-toned colour, and said opaque indicia means are dark coloured, to provide a readily visible contrast under external illumination, for easy legibility.
6. The luminescent screen as set forth in Claim 2, wherein said light-responsive cut-out means includes a photo cell incorporating a light-actuated switch that goes to an open circuit condition on

exposure to ambient light of predetermined intensity.

7. A long-range house number identification panel, having a plurality of number indicia in selected arrangement upon a viewing screen, said indicia being individually readable with the naked eye from up to 200 feet distance, an electrically energizable phosphorescent screen located behind said indicia; electrical supply means connected with said screen to provide to said screen a predetermined voltage of limited value, and switch means in controlling relation with said supply means, to enable operation of said panel under predetermined ambient light conditions.

8. The identification panel as set forth in Claim 7, wherein said number indicia have a height of up to about four inches.

9. The identification panel as set forth in Claim 8 having a lateral width to accommodate four of said indicia.

10. The identification panel as set forth in Claim 7, wherein said indicia are selected from the group consisting of separate, individual indicia of opaque material, and an opaque sheet having apertures therethrough shaped in the form of said indicia to permit the passage of light from said screen when energized..

11. A luminescent display for use in illuminating identification indicia, including a housing for attachment to a support surface; a phosphorescent screen having a useful viewable area, substantially opaque indicia means mounted on said screen; and electrical energizing means connected to the screen for applying a predetermined voltage to the screen in energizing relation therewith to illuminate the indicia means, whereby the indicia are identifiable for viewing when the screen is energized, wherein said predetermined voltage is limited to a value less than the rated

value of said screen, to extend the service life expectation for the screen

12. The luminescent screen as set forth in Claim 11, including light-responsive cut-out means to disconnect said energizing means from said screen when ambient light exceeds a predetermined threshold level.

13. The luminescent screen as set forth in Claim 11, wherein said phosphorescent screen has a light-toned colour, and said opaque indicia means are dark coloured, to provide a readily visible contrast under external illumination, for easy legibility.

14. The luminescent screen as set forth in Claim 11, said phosphorescent screen having a useful area in excess of twenty square inches, said indicia being up to about four inches in height, whereby the indicia are identifiable for remote viewing when the screen is energized.